



OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION

September 16, 2009

Dear Friends & Fellow Parishioners:

The end of summer and return of the school year creates the ideal opportunity to share the exciting news about our capital campaign to revitalize OLA's facilities, including long-needed infrastructure upgrades, school and church renovations, and a new parish hall and preschool center. I am delighted to report that the campaign has surpassed \$1 million in signed pledges and verbal commitments! This is an outstanding accomplishment, particularly in this challenging and unprecedented economy. Most of all, it demonstrates the level of commitment and passion we all have for our parish home and faith community.

As you may recall, we are taking a phased approach to the campaign and construction. We are currently in what is called the "Advance Gifts" stage. We have spent several months working on the groundwork needed to establish our campaign leadership, strategy and systems. Since late March when we officially kicked off the Advance Gifts Committee, we have been meeting individually with members of the OLA faith community to share our plans, solicit their feedback, and garner early support. By using this thoughtful and deliberate approach, we can better determine what our Phase I goal will ultimately entail before we launch a more "public" parish-wide campaign.

We hope you understand that meeting with parishioners on an individual basis can be a slow process, but it is designed to be a more personal and respectful approach than soliciting gifts from the pulpit. It also allows parishioners to ask questions or express concerns in a more intimate environment. Our goal, therefore, is to raise 60-70% of the needed funds in pledges before embarking on the parish-wide campaign. We are making strong progress toward that milestone and, therefore, will be spending the remainder of the year continuing these early meetings in preparation for the more "public" campaign events.

Our success to date is due to a tremendous group of parishioners who have generously volunteered to assist the campaign, including:

- **Advance Gifts Committee Co-Chairmen:** Kelly Brothers & Dave Murphy
- **Advance Gifts Committee Members:** Kathleen Chambers, John & Alexxa DeBenedetti, Stu Fretz, Louis & Joanne Giorgi, Mary Joycelyn Griffin, Greg Hayes, Steve Lawver, Stan & Deborah Lukowicz, Fr. Brendan McKeefry, Todd Sanfillippo, and Darren & Kimberly Sax.
- **Steering Committee:** Kathleen Chambers, Celeste Depner, Stu Fretz, Duane Johnson, Vince Madden and, Fr. Brendan McKeefry.

We welcome your help and involvement! If you would like to be part of the Advance Gifts stage and have not yet been contacted by one of our volunteers, please join us. Simply call the campaign office at 916-481-5115, ext. 46, and set up a time to meet with the volunteer(s) of your choice. If you know or are friends with one of the volunteers, you can even call him or her directly. All I ask is that you hold off on sending a gift until you've had a chance to hear our plans and prayerfully consider how you might help.

Thank you for your continued prayers for the success of this important opportunity to revitalize OLA for current and future generations.

Yours in Christ,

Dan Cairns, Capital Campaign Chairman